

MAYOR & COUNCIL AGENDA COVER SHEET

MEETING DATE:

April 16, 2007

CALL TO PODIUM:

Erica Shingara, Environmental
Services Director

RESPONSIBLE STAFF:

Fred Felton, Assistant City
Manager
Erica Shingara, Environmental
Services Director
Eli Golfer, Environmental
Specialist

AGENDA ITEM:

(please check one)

	Presentation
	Proclamation/Certificate
	Appointment
	Public Hearing
	Historic District
	Consent Item
	Ordinance
X	Resolution
	Policy Discussion
	Work Session Discussion Item
	Other:

PUBLIC HEARING HISTORY:

(Please complete this section if agenda
item is a public hearing)

Introduced	
Advertised	
Hearing Date	
Record Held Open	
Policy Discussion	

TITLE:

**Resolution of the Mayor and City Council Adopting a
Sustainable Building Policy for City Buildings**

SUPPORTING BACKGROUND:

In September of 2007, staff and three City Council members attended the Washington Council of Government's Green Building Strategies Conference that emphasized the importance for local governments to demonstrate leadership in sustainable design. It was evident from this conference that many other local governments (e.g., Montgomery County, Washington D.C., and Arlington) have adopted or are currently considering utilizing the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver standard for public buildings.

In the fall of 2006, the City's Youth Center at Robertson Park received official LEED certification for the USGBC. Furthermore, the City is currently in the planning stages for two additional buildings, the Olde Towne Youth Center and the Gaithersburg Aquatic/Recreation Center, to be designed to the LEED Silver standard.

During the course of discussion on the City's 2007 Strategic Plan, the Mayor and Council asked staff to develop a formal policy requiring future City buildings to be constructed to meet the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED Silver standard.

Staff has prepared the attached resolution which summarizes the rationale for adopting a sustainable building policy for public buildings and outlines the following requirements:

- Budget, plan, construct, and operate all new occupied City buildings in such a manner to achieve the LEED™ Silver certification level from the U.S. Green Building Council; and
- Incorporate as many LEED™ principles as reasonably feasible in renovations of existing buildings and in the construction of non-occupied City buildings.

DESIRED OUTCOME:

Vote on Resolution.

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL ADOPTING A SUSTAINABLE
BUILDING POLICY FOR CITY BUILDINGS

WHEREAS, integrating sustainable design practices can reduce the impact of development relating to air and water quality, energy use, stormwater management, climate change, material use, natural resource preservation, and other health and environmental issues, while supporting economic growth and community health; and

WHEREAS, the Environmental Affairs Committee has recommended that the Mayor and City Council adopt a policy whereby all future City buildings are designed, constructed, and maintained in an environmentally sensitive and sustainable manner; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council have signed the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement and pledged to initiate cost-effective local strategies that save energy and taxpayer dollars, improve public health, and reduce emissions; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council desire that its buildings be models of environmental, economic and social stewardship, contributing to the City's goals of protecting, conserving and enhancing the region's environmental resources and setting a community standard of sustainable building; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Green Building Council's **Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED™)** Green Building Rating System and Certification is a nationally recognized standard for excellence in building design that has the following levels of certification: Certified, Silver, Gold, and Platinum; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council have determined that a Silver level of LEED™ certification is achievable with manageable additional costs when the appropriate design concepts, technologies, and materials are incorporated at the beginning of the design process; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council finds that green building principles and practices yield long-term cost savings to the City's taxpayers due to substantial improvements in life-cycle performance and reduced life-cycle costs:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and City Council of Gaithersburg, that the City Manager be and he hereby is authorized to budget, plan, construct, and operate all new occupied City buildings in such a manner to achieve the LEED™ Silver certification level from the U.S. Green Building Council.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager be and he hereby is authorized to incorporate as many LEED™ principles as reasonably feasible in renovations of existing buildings and in the construction of non-occupied City buildings.

ADOPTED by the Mayor and City Council this 16th day of April, 2007.

SIDNEY A. KATZ, MAYOR and
President of the Council

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that the foregoing
Resolution was adopted by the City Council
in a public meeting assembled on the 16th day
of April, 2007.

David B. Humpton, City Manager